



# IDEM Permit Guide

## Handling and Disposing of Solid Wastes (an overview)

### Solid Waste

Solid waste, in general, can be a solid, liquid, or contained gas that is discarded, abandoned, or recycled, or is an inherently waste-like material. IDEM oversees the disposal of solid wastes, including household waste and wastes generated by commercial or industrial activities, as well as those generated by cleanup activities.

***This portion of the IDEM Permit Guide is divided into 3 parts:***

- 1) How to safely Dispose of the Solid Wastes Generated at Commercial or Industrial Facilities (including hazardous waste) while maintaining compliance with all federal and state waste disposal rules,
- 2) How to Obtain Permits to Manage or Dispose of Specific Types of Waste which are either self-generated or which the permittee has contracted to dispose of, and
- 3) How to Obtain a Permit to Operate a Waste Disposal Facility.

### Disposal of Solid Wastes Generated at Commercial or Industrial Facilities

Determining the disposal requirements for waste generated by a commercial or industrial facility can be varied and complex. There may be some wastes that are readily acceptable for disposal at any permitted solid waste landfill, such as lunchroom and non-hazardous office waste, as well as wastes which require more environmentally protective handling or disposal requirements. It is the responsibility of the generator to determine those requirements based on the nature and the characteristics of the wastes generated, and to dispose of them in the appropriate manner. This determination is called a "waste determination."

Title 329, article 10, rule 7.1 of the Indiana Administrative Code 329 IAC 10-7.1 (incorporates waste determination requirements from several federal regulations including RCRA, TSCA, FIFRA, and NESHAP), describes how such a waste determination must be conducted to determine how a waste may be properly managed, processed or disposed. The waste determination establishes whether a waste is hazardous waste, or a non-hazardous waste, contains regulated levels of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), contains regulated levels of pesticide, or if the waste presents a handling problem such as containing fugitive dusts or reacts with water to produce heat.

**Note:** Waste streams cannot be combined for a waste determination.

Like any other hazardous waste, industrial process wastes (defined in the Indiana Code at 329 IAC 10-2-95) that are determined to be hazardous wastes may be stored on site only for a limited time. Large quantity generators may not store hazardous waste on site for more than 90 days while small quantity generators may not store such waste on site for more than 180 days. To store hazardous waste beyond these time limits requires a permit. Facilities not wanting to obtain such a permit must ship their hazardous waste to a state permitted treatment, storage, or disposal facility. In addition, shipment to such a facility requires the use of a hazardous waste manifest.

Similarly, wastes that are determined to contain regulated levels of either PCBs (See 329 IAC

4.1), or pesticides also have specific regulations governing their management and disposal.

On the other hand, industrial process wastes (defined in the Indiana Code at IC 10-2-95) which are determined to be non-hazardous and which do not contain PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls) or other wastes regulated by the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) may be managed or processed in a variety of means, including:

- Disposal at an out-of-state solid waste disposal facility,
- Sending to a permitted solid waste incinerator,
- Land Application as a Biosolid,
- Securing a waste classification to dispose of the waste in an IDEM-approved Restricted Waste Site (these sites are generally, but not always, self-operated by the generator), or
- Disposing of the material at a state permitted municipal solid waste landfill.

Some industrial process wastes may be reused [See 329 IAC 10-3-1 "Exclusions; general"]. Please note that IDEM approval may be required to reuse certain wastes, depending upon the type of waste and how it is to be reused. Some commonly reused industrial process wastes include:

- **Foundry Sand:** for more information see 329 IAC 10-3-1(12), IC 13-19-3-7 "Use of foundry sand" and the "Use of Foundry Sand in Accordance with House Enrolled Act 1541," guidance from IDEM's Office of Land Quality.
- **Coal Ash:** for more information see IC-13-19-3-3 "Prohibited areas of regulation".
- **Slag:** (from iron or steel production) for more information see IC 13-19-3-8 "Use of Slag".

Also, with IDEM approval, materials classified as industrial process wastes may be distributed to other facilities for reuse by advertising through the Indiana Materials Exchange (IMX). Be advised that that IDEM approval may be required to dispose of or reuse some types of wastes through the Indiana Material Exchange; **listing materials in the IMX does not constitute IDEM approval.**

Some wastes either cannot be, or are not commonly, accepted by municipal solid waste landfills, or may be more appropriately, and perhaps less expensively, disposed of at other types of facilities, such as:

- Construction and/or Demolition Debris Landfills or
- Yard Waste Composting Sites or Facilities.

IDEM has developed non-rule policies or issued guidances regarding the disposal of a wide range of other regulated wastes. All facilities are urged to review their disposal practices of these wastes.

## Obtaining IDEM Issued Permits to Dispose of Specific Types of Waste

In addition to regulating the disposal of wastes generated by commercial and industrial activities as described above, IDEM also issues various permits, registrations, certifications, and licenses to persons seeking to dispose of specific types of wastes. These permits, registrations, certifications, and licenses are sought both by persons and facilities wanting to dispose of waste they themselves generate, as well as by persons wishing to contract their services for the disposal of wastes generated by others. These various permits, registrations, certifications, and licenses include, but are not limited to:

- Permits for the Land Application of Biosolids, Industrial Wastewater, and Pollutant Bearing Water,
- Permits for the Disposal of Septic Wastewater or Wastewater from Portable Sanitary Units,
- Registrations for the Transport, Storage or Processing of Waste Tires,
- Notification for demolition or renovation of a building (for the purpose of monitoring asbestos)

- removal and disposal),
- Notification of lead abatement activities,
- Licensing of trainers, inspectors, contractors and workers for asbestos removal,
- Licensing of trainers, inspectors, contractors and workers for lead-based paint abatement,
- Registration of Underground Storage Tanks, and
- Approval of Confined Animal Feeding Operations.

## **Obtaining an IDEM Issued Permit to Operate a Waste Disposal Facility**

Persons and governmental entities wishing to construct and operate a solid waste handling or recycling facility, transfer station, solid waste landfill, construction and demolition debris landfill, restricted waste site, or a yard waste composting facility must obtain a permit from the IDEM Solid Waste Facilities Branch. Applications for solid waste facility permits can be obtained by contacting:

Bill Holland  
Phone: 317/233-0449  
E-mail: [bholland@dem.state.in.us](mailto:bholland@dem.state.in.us)

IDEM also issues Solid Waste Operator Certifications to those persons responsible for the daily operation of a solid waste disposal facility. Applications for Operator Certifications can be obtained by contacting:

Jim McCurdy  
Phone: 317/232-8731  
E-mail: [jmccurdy@dem.state.in.us](mailto:jmccurdy@dem.state.in.us)

In addition, those wishing to construct and operate a hazardous waste treatment, storage or disposal (TSD) facility must obtain a Hazardous Waste TSD Facility Permit from the IDEM Hazardous Waste Facilities Branch. For an application for a hazardous waste permit, contact:

Glynda Oakes  
Phone: 317/233-1052  
E-mail: [goakes@dem.state.in.us](mailto:goakes@dem.state.in.us)